

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/090,291

Examiner

Walter F. Briney III

Applicant(s)

ENRIQUEZ ET AL.

Art Unit

2615

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed 25 April 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 21, 22, 24 and 33-38.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

1. **Claims 21, 22, 24 and 33-38 are allowed.**

Claims 21, 22 and 24 are limited to “[an improvement] for use with a subscriber line interface circuit (SLIC)” and are allowed for the same reasons set forth in the Non-Final Office Action filed 06 April 2006.

Claim 33 is limited to “[an improvement] for use with a subscriber line interface circuit.” Although the combination of Takato (US Patent 4,935,960) in view of McAndrews (US Patent 5,160,851) teaches a SLIC with a voltage regulator arranged at the input V_{BB} of a voltage dividing node 117 as depicted in figure 11 of Takato, there is no disclosure, teaching or suggestion that the voltage at the voltage dividing node 117 is applied to first polarity inputs of both a tip and ring amplifier as set forth in lines 26-30 of the claim. Instead, voltage-controlled currents are provided. Thus, claim 33 is allowable over Takato in view of McAndrews.

Claim 34 is limited in part to “the improvement according to claim 33,” and is allowable over the cited prior art for at least the same reasons.

Claim 35 is limited to “a method for limiting the value of DC voltage applied to tip and ring amplifiers of a subscriber line interface circuit (SLIC).” Like claim 33, there is no disclosure, teaching or suggestion that the voltage at the voltage dividing node 117

of Takato is applied to first polarity inputs of both a tip and ring amplifier as set forth in lines 24-29 of the claim. Thus, claim 35 is allowable over Takato in view of McAndrews.

Claim 36 is limited in part to "the method according to claim 35," and is allowable over the cited prior art for at least the same reasons.

Claim 37 is limited to "a circuit arrangement for applying a Dc voltage to tip and ring amplifiers of a subscriber line interface circuit (SLIC)." Like claim 33, there is no disclosure, teaching or suggestion that the voltage at the voltage dividing node 117 of Takato is applied to first polarity inputs of both a tip and ring amplifier as set forth in lines 29-32 of the claim. Thus, claim 35 is allowable over Takato in view of McAndrews.

Claim 38 is limited in part to "the circuit arrangement according to claim 37," and is allowable over the cited prior art for at least the same reasons.


Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Walter F. Briney III whose telephone number is 571-272-7513. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8am - 4:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sinh Tran can be reached on 571-272-7564. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

WFB


SINH TRAN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

